

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 390

Recognizing the continued importance of the transatlantic relationship and promoting stronger relations with Europe by reaffirming the need for a continued and meaningful dialogue between the United States and Europe.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 2, 2003

Mr. BEREUTER (for himself, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. WEXLER, and Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the continued importance of the transatlantic relationship and promoting stronger relations with Europe by reaffirming the need for a continued and meaningful dialogue between the United States and Europe.

Whereas for more than a half century transatlantic policy cooperation and coordination have been essential for the preservation of peace and freedom in Europe, have enabled the development of free and prosperous economies, and helped restore stability and unity in the Euro-Atlantic area;

Whereas a central goal of United States policy toward Europe remains that the development of a Europe united, free, strong, and at peace is in the best interests of the

United States and Europe so long as the United States and Europe continue to work as partners, not rivals or counterweights;

Whereas the central pillar of the United States partnership with Europe remains a strong and cohesive Atlantic Alliance;

Whereas the United States and the European community are aware of their shared responsibility, not only to further transatlantic security, but to address other common interests such as environmental protection, poverty reduction, combatting international crime and promoting human rights, and to work together to meet those transnational challenges which affect the well-being of all;

Whereas in recognition of the threats posed by global terrorism, terrorist states, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and the nexus of the three, the partnership should be expanded progressively from a transatlantic community of values to an effective transatlantic community of action by developing a collaborative strategy and action plan for dealing with those challenges of mutual interest and concern;

Whereas no policy disagreement, such as the dispute with respect to Iraq, should be allowed to significantly disrupt transatlantic relations nor cause any member of the Euro-Atlantic community to choose between partners;

Whereas a renewed commitment to strengthen the partnership through increased cooperation, communication, consultation and information-exchange is required to achieve our common goals, which will continue to ensure peace and prosperity between the United States and Europe;

Whereas Congress has played a constructive role in this cooperative approach to partnership with Europe through mechanisms such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Parliamentary Assembly, the Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue, and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Parliamentary Assembly which have for years brought together legislators of both the United States and Europe for discussions of issues of common interest in order to further transatlantic understanding and partnership at the parliamentary level; and

Whereas the House of Representatives welcomes and congratulates the newest member nations invited to join NATO and the European Union and looks forward to broader dialogue through their participation in these transatlantic parliamentary organizations: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) affirms the conviction of the United States
3 that, despite the occasional differences and difficul-
4 ties, the underlying ties which have historically
5 bound the people of the United States and of Eu-
6 rope remain strong;

7 (2) accepts the indivisibility of transatlantic se-
8 curity which provides an indispensable link between
9 North America and Europe;

10 (3) recognizes that both the United States and
11 Europe face new challenges at home and abroad and

1 must strengthen and adapt the transatlantic part-
2 nership to effectively meet these challenges;

3 (4) acknowledges that in order to strengthen
4 the transatlantic partnership there must be a re-
5 newed commitment to regular and intensive con-
6 sultation, information exchange and dialogue be-
7 tween the United States Government and the gov-
8 ernments of Europe and the European Union; and

9 (5) commits on its part to continue to improve
10 the transatlantic partnership by enhancing the com-
11 munication between the United States Congress and
12 the legislatures of Europe through the formal frame-
13 works of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, the
14 Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue, the OSCE Par-
15 liamentary Assembly, and various other formal and
16 informal inter-parliamentary organizations.

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